

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re application of :
Makoto AKIZUKI et al. :
Serial No. [NEW] : **Attn: APPLICATION BRANCH**
Filed December 26, 2001 : Attorney Docket No. 2000-1897

METHOD FOR FORMING GAS CLUSTER
AND METHOD FOR FORMING THIN FILM

(Rule 1.53(b) Continuation of Serial
No. 09/799,681, Filed March 7, 2001)

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Assistant Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

Please amend the present application as follows:

IN THE SPECIFICATION:

Please replace the paragraph beginning immediately after the title with the following rewritten paragraph:

--This is a Rule 1.53(b) Continuation application of Serial No. 09/799,681, filed March 7, 2001, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial No. 09/566,740, filed May 9, 2000, now abandoned, which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/951,959, filed October 17, 1997, now abandoned which is a continuation of Serial No. 08/650,905, filed May 17, 1996, now abandoned.--

IN THE CLAIMS:

Please amend claims 3 to 7, 9, 13, 14 and 17 as follows:

4A
3/11/02